

2.—Statistics of Hospitals for Mentally Defective Persons in the Nine Provinces of Canada, latest year reported—concluded.

Items.	Man- itoba. ¹	Saskat- chewan. ²	Alberta. ³	British Colum- bia. ⁴
Number of institutions.....	3	2	3	3
Inmates (beginning of year).....	1,201	1,681	968	1,884
Admissions.....	211	532	356	475
Discharges and deaths.....	159	446	277	439
Improved or cured.....	—	—	131	118
Inmates (end of year).....	1,343	1,767	1,047	1,995
Staff—Doctors.....	268	7	—	9
Nurses.....	—	317	—	—
Revenue—Government grants.....	—	—	45,890	530,946
Fees.....	\$ 52,038	139,222	7,452	105,820
Total.....	\$ 90,322	—	55,154	636,766
Expenditure—Salaries.....	\$ 196,347	235,316	16,000	267,658
Building and equipment.....	—	450,929	—	137,088
Total.....	\$ 274,804	686,245	30,484	676,766

¹ Year (10 months) ended Aug. 31, 1922. ² Year ended Dec. 31, 1926.

³ Year ended Dec. 31, 1923. One institution for the care of mentally defective children is included. Figures of revenue and expenditure apply to this institution only. ⁴ Year ended Mar. 31, 1926.

I.—DOMINION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

The Act of Parliament (9-10 George V, Chap. 24, An Act respecting the Department of Health), creating the Dominion Department of Health, clearly defined its functions as follows:—to protect the country against the entrance of infectious disease; to exclude immigrants who might become a charge upon the country; to treat sick and injured mariners; to see that men employed on public construction work were provided with proper medical care; to set the standards and control the quality of food and drugs, except meat and canned goods, which are under the Department of Agriculture; to control proprietary medicines and the importation and exportation of habit-forming drugs such as morphine, cocaine, etc.; to prevent the spread of the venereal diseases; to care for lepers and to co-operate with the provinces with a view to preserving and improving the public health.

There was also created, in virtue of the Act, a Dominion Council of Health, consisting of the Deputy Minister of Health of Canada, acting as chairman, the chief executive officer of the various provincial Departments of Health and representatives of labour, the farm, public health science, education and women's organizations. Through this body matters of health which affect the country either in whole or in part are discussed, uniformly established and co-operation secured. (For a fuller description of this body, see 1926 Year Book, pp. 908-9.)

In order to preserve the principle of provincial sovereignty, sec. 7 of the Health Act was inserted. It is as follows:—"Nothing in this Act or in any regulation made thereunder shall authorize the Minister or any officer of the Department to exercise any jurisdiction or control over any Provincial or Municipal Board of Health or other health authority operating under the laws of any Province."

Quarantine Service.—One of the divisions of the Department of Health is that of maritime quarantine. Its object is the prevention of the importation of major infectious diseases into the country, and, with this end in view, quarantine stations are in operation at the several maritime ports. Every vessel coming from